

Hopkinton Senior Recreation Committee

Minutes of Meeting of May 18, 2009

Members Present: Janet Krzyzaniak, Lillian Landry, Don Lane, George Langwasser, Justin LaVigne, Allita Paine, Gloria Symonds

Members Absent: Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw, Joanne Woodward

Others Present: Merle Dustin

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Chairperson Janet Krzyzaniak.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the Hopkinton SRC meeting of April 20th were approved with one correction presented by Justin LaVigne (re those to attend the NH Conference on Aging). Motion to approve by George Langwasser, seconded by Don Lane.

Business: NH Conference on Aging: SRC members Gloria Symonds and Janet Krzyzaniak will attend the NH Conference on Aging on May 28th.

Updates: Barn storage: Lillian Landry reported talking with Don Lane regarding getting someone to clean the barn prior to moving storage bins from the Center into the barn. Don will talk with Hermie before the next SRC meeting. Justin LaVigne has met with Garrett about installing the shelves from Columbia Hall in the barn; it will be difficult because of the barn floor being so uneven but it will get done.

Slusser Senior Center Service Corps: Don Lane stated that he is doing very well generating needs. We have not been as successful recruiting volunteers.

- Stephanie Lesko of the PTA requested cupcakes but the notice was too short; a request for brownies for the end of June will be fulfilled.
- Volunteers have signed up for the Book Fair.
- Volunteers are being solicited for road clean-up (Gould Hill, Penacook, Little Tooky, Briar Hill). Allita Paine volunteered herself and Phil Fitts to clean Park Avenue along with Janet Krzyzaniak. Safety vests and poles with nail ends are available; gloves and reachers are helpful.
- Volunteers are needed to read stories to pre-schoolers at Harold Martin School, Mondays 9 – 10 am, for the remainder of this school year and next year; someone could volunteer to coordinate readers rather than having one person commit to every Monday.
- The Antiquarian Society also has an extensive list of volunteer opportunities.

Bulk Mailing: Lillian presented cost figures for bulk mailing of a Slusser Senior Center newsletter; the bottom line for 4 mailings to the 2617 households in town would be \$1071.84, including a \$360 annual fee for a bulk mailing permit. However, printing costs for a 4-page (double-sided) newsletter would be \$2,000, per Kinko's. Janet Krzyzaniak suggested starting small, with a 1-page (2-sided) newsletter, like the recently published "Hopkinton News," circulated rather than mailed. Don Lane offered to print it on his computer. Allita Paine pointed out that this option might better fit the current economic climate. It was noted that Justin LaVigne is still waiting to hear from the newsletter publishing company that sells ads to support free newsletters. Janet Krzyzaniak moved that the Slusser Senior Center publish a 2-sided single page newsletter about the Center's activities, encouraging people to come to the Center, with Don Lane to print it, and the Senior Center to provide Don a ream of paper. A notation in the newsletter will state "Not published at

taxpayers' expense." Don Lane seconded the motion and the majority vote was in favor. Janet said that we need to make it clear to townspeople that Senior Center activities are self-supporting. George Langwasser said that emphasis in the newsletter needs to be on the positive, such as the number of people breaking bread together and coming to activities. Don Lane, Janet Krzyzaniak, and Lillian Landry will work on the newsletter. Justin LaVigne and Sara Darby just finished an information sheet on every program at the Center; this may be helpful in writing the newsletter.

Volunteer of the Year Luncheon: Allita Paine suggested that as follow-up to the Volunteer of the Year celebration, results be announced at the Wednesday Senior lunch and in appropriate publications. Justin LaVigne will make the announcement Wednesday and Allita Paine will write articles for the Monitor, The Villager, Goffstown News, RSVP, and the Slusser Senior Center newsletter.

Cable Hook-Up: Justin LaVigne reported that the Senior Center now has cable TV with 4 outlets (living room, dining room, fitness room, game room) and two TVs. Justin will write a thank you note to Comcast for this free service.

Rentals of Senior Center: Justin LaVigne reported that the Slusser Senior Center has been rented once for a total of \$80. There were no problems and the space was left clean.

4th of July Celebration: Slusser Senior Center participation will include:

- Center will be open, 12 noon to 4pm, for information and bathroom use, with hosting by Janet Kryzaniak, Merle Dustin, Betsy Russell, and Gloria Symonds. The Center's continuous slide show will play in the lobby.
- Joanne Woodward will run a Senior Center fundraising bake sale.
- A dance performance will take place inside; Justin LaVigne will announce the time and encourage attendance.
- Available October raffle items will be on display (e.g. American Girl doll with wardrobe, quilt).

Merle Dustin and Allita Paine will work on the details of the Center's participation in the 4th of July celebration.

Ideas for Senior Center Summer Activities: Members had the following ideas:

- Gloria Symonds suggested that one of the cookouts be a luau with Hawaiian food and attire. All agreed it was a great idea, to be done August 19 at Elm Brook!
- Allita Paine asked about horseshoes. Justin LaVigne said they will be available in a month. A tournament might bring in some men. Badminton will also be available.
- Lillian Landry asked if the Center could be open once a week during the summer for "game night" to include ping pong, pool, Wii, and any other activities of interest. Lillian will ask for volunteers and organize this with Justin.

News from the Recreation Department: Justin LaVigne reported the following:

- He is going to open the Slusser Senior Center to the public on the second Saturday night of each month for dancing.
- Doris Shaban purged the books and puzzles at the Senior Center, sending the books to the Library for the Book Fair; the puzzles will be given away at the Craft Fair which is to be held at the Senior Center at the same time as the Book Fair (May 30th). Fees for the

tables at the Craft Fair will be used to support the summer recreation program. In addition, seniors are encouraged to bake items for sale at the Craft Fair.

- SRC members approved Justin's suggestion that donations in memory of Cam Wagner, currently \$150, be put toward the garden project for supplies such as mulch and a hose.
- Attendance at the May Senior Center breakfast was no better than usual despite the decrease in suggested donation, from \$4. to \$3. Breakfasts are a lot of work and may not be worth continuing. As planned, they are discontinued until fall anyway.
- The Red Sox game excursion tomorrow is a sellout. Another is planned in October.

Brownies Flower Planting Project: Janet Krzyzaniak reported on the Brownies project. The plants they have been growing in the greenhouse will be planted around town on Saturday: at the police station at 9 am; fountain square and bridge at 11 am; and Slusser Senior Center/Library at 2:30 pm. Pleasant View has given the plants; there is a need for more mulch. Janet will contact the senior volunteers who have offered to help to schedule specific times with each one.

The next meeting of the Hopkinton Senior Recreation Committee is scheduled Monday, June 15, 2009, at 1:30 pm, at the Slusser Senior Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm on a motion by Lillian Landry, seconded by Allita Paine.

/AHP